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Anarchist Agitators

FOR Anarchist Agitators
Information and correspondence organ of the Social Revolutionary Anarchist Federation

COLUMBIA, MISSOURI:

Dears,
The Columbia Anarchist League gleefully declares itself a member of S.R.A.F!

Scharr, for C.A.L.

RASCAL (Morgantown, West Virginia):
Reply to "2" members of Aurora/Madison SRAF (this is in response to a leaflet I got at the Illinois SRAF conference).

I feel that our comrades put ideology down too much. True: ideology hinders the ability to act freely and think freely, but without it there would be less direction for those who seek a philosophical base with which to proceed. One could say that the Spanish Anarchist movement was too anarcho-syndicalist; that it followed Bakunin's ideas too much. But without the tireless propagandizing of 60 years, the Spanish workers' movement may well have resembled the reformist Socialist or Communist unions. The Ideologists provided a basic idea for the workers to digest: the workers could've rejected it or accepted it. History records that they (particularly in northeast Spain) chose leftwing anarchism.

The IWW is called bureaucratic and static by the "2". That the IWW tries to impose "the static form of industrial unionism on the proletarian movement". Doubtful. True, the IWW may be too hung up on its structure and could use a little modernization. But to say that the IWW doesn't allow "the proletariat to develop, during the revolutionary crisis, its own forms of generalized self-management" is pure crap. The IWW has not told rank and file rebels how to run their revolts. It may point out criticisms or encourage its style of unionism, but it doesn't want to control the rebellious movements.

Another "fault" of the IWW is that it wants the workers to run their own workplace. They (the "2") say that under capitalism, such control would be "self-managed capitalism". Of course it would be! The "2" sound like many people I hear

today: "The labor unions are corrupt, they are capitalist, they should be abolished." This type of rationale is elitist, because it says that workers should forget about making gains and improvements under the present system because it's capitalist. Self-management under capitalism indeed isn't the real thing, but it sure is a step in the right direction, and is the seed of future events. Granted these forms seem like cooptation but to totally dismiss gains made in this system is to practice inaction.

I enjoyed the conference & found many different types of folks there. I hope we build for a better one next time.

PS: If people want a copy of that leaflet they should contact Madison SRAF at Aurora, Box 1163, Madison, WI 53701.

John McIntosh, 3707 Collins Ferry Road, Morgantown, WV 26505

AURORA (Madison, Wisconsin):

Aurora also has the following:
"Free Association; Revolutionary Committees as a Method of Organization"

"The Driver That Stole Cargo"

"Initiation Rites for Professors and Administrators"

SAN DIEGO, CALIFORNIA:

Dear SRAF,

Just got around to reading your Bull #63 and am inspired to write to ask for listing as San Diego SRAF at 4765 Mt. Longs Dr., San Diego, CA 92117. You can stop sending separate bulls to David Swearns and Laurie Walter, as were half of this house (which we're considering calling Hagerty House after the 7-ft tall priest with blazing 6-guns who invented the IWW I.U. "Wheel of Fortune"). Others are Ron Wood and Gregory Delozier.

The "anti-Semitic/anti-Zionist" controversy has finally convinced me to read Black Star. I'll let you know next time whether that turned out to be rotten for my state of mind or not.

Laurie

San Diego SRAF have posters warning of "Dangerous Drugs" (I.e., work, property, television, white bread, money).

SRAF (St. Catherines, Ontario): ps,
Sisters & Brothers, Unity

I hope this finds all of you but in good fighting spirits. People who all I will run down my recent ac very enlighten

Early in the summer I was into propaganda work and fund raising for the Leonard Peltier defense committee. Through donations and my own contributions I raised about \$20. I also had an encounter with one of the local boys in blue while leafletting and talking to people in the downtown St.Catherines. The harassment was brief however, and nothing further came of it.

I also made an important contact. I met an elderly anarchist comrade who lives on a farm about 50 miles from me. He's been an anarchist since 1945 and he had been the Canadian correspondent for Freedom before that became George Woodcock's responsibility. While we have not yet developed a working relationship we have at least been able to keep in touch which is an accomplishment in itself. Of late I have been getting word of the existence of several individual anarchists scattered within an area of 50 miles from St.Catherines. I'm hoping that at some point in the not too distant future most of us will be able to get together.

My most recent project revolves around the Murray case in Ireland. Noel & Marie Murray are anarchists who along with a prisoners' rights activist have been sentenced to death by hanging by the Irish state. They allegedly participated in an armed robbery which left a cop dead. There's no question that they have "confessed" to the charges however they did so after very long periods of interrogation in which they were beaten and tortured. Further, they were denied a trial by jury on the basis of the Irish state's crackdown on IRA activity even though they have no connection with the IRA. The seriousness of the situation is pointed up by the fact that the final appeal will be heard on November 1, after which they will probably be hung by the end of the year. I just hope that you read this before it's too late. I urge you to contact the defense group at: Murray Defense Group, Box 2, Rising Free, 138/142 Drummond St., London, NW1, England. If you want more info sooner than you would get it from Europe, then I suggest that you write me at Box 223, Jordan Stn, Ontario.

At this point I'll comment upon the conference from a personal perspective. For the most part I enjoyed it thoroughly and gained a great deal from going to it. It did a great deal to end my feeling of isolation and to strengthen my commitment to revolutionary anarchism. This is not to say however that I saw no shortcomings

in the conference. For one thing in terms of SRAF as a whole I did not feel that a great deal was accomplished in the way of practical revolutionary work. Outside of deciding upon an annual conference I cannot think of any major accomplishments other than those which were strictly educational. I was particularly dismayed at not having seen any new developments emerge regarding the question of internal organization. I feel that many people did not put their critical faculties to any use in this regard. Certainly more people than Sam Dolgoff, the Renaissance group, the comrades from Des Moines and myself must feel that there are serious shortcomings within the organization which have to be overcome very soon.

There is one other thing. After the conference I learned that a statement to it from Anthony Pestalozzi, his friend Steve and Mitchell Miller was never communicated to those in attendance. It's my suspicion that its contents were not received well in some quarters and that it was "forgotten" about as a result. I think that whoever knows about the facts of this incident owes it to everyone in SRAF to explain exactly what happened. Further, it is my desire to see an end to the wholesale butchering of letters by size reduction and in light of the fact that that was exactly what happened to Mitchell Miller's letter in #52. I will close on a more positive note by stating that despite this my commitment to SRAF remains firm. Smash the State!

In Love & Revolution, Bruce

FREESPACE ALTERNATE U (New York City):
Dear Comrades,

There were 4 groups at the Illinois meeting that called themselves SRAF groups ((and aren't listed in the bulletin)): Columbia Anarchist League; St.Louis Anarchists; and CU-SRAF. The Bloomington, Indiana group is apparently the same that wrote into the last issue of the SRAF Bulletin, but I don't have their exact address. All these groups were at Illinois; all stood up and announced themselves as SRAF groups, so it seems to me they all should be included in the SRAF roster. These were all requests that they be listed, although the requests were verbal rather than written.

The Nobody for President campaign picked up speed during the recent election campaign. During the summer there were Nobody for President demos at both the major conventions. More recently, on election day and during the few days preceding it, there were demos in NYC, Wash.DC, Chicago, San Francisco and Madison.

These are all I know about, but perhaps readers could fill us in on other demos.

In NYC, Wavy Gravy, the "campaign mgr for Nobody," held a rally on Election Day at Dag Hammarskjold Plaza; the Jelly Bread Co-op demonstrated the previous Saturday night in Washington Square. David Peel, the folksinger, played & sang at both rallies. The Washington Square affair was broken up by a massed charge of about 75 policemen, apparently because someone set off fireworks.

Freespace Alternate U, which has been promoting Nobody for President since 1973, electioneered on Election Day at one of the polls in NYC with Nobody for President buttons and campaign literature. Several persons promised Nobdy's campaign workers that they would write Nobody in at the poll. Scott Poar Bear tells me by phone that the SRAF group in Madison also electioneered at the polls and the story of this will appear in the new SRAF publication, No Limits. I am also told that Minneapolis people carried on a rap campaign around the theme, "Don't Vote - It Only Encourages Them!"

One theme that I found effective with people who've no background in anarchism is that the US carried out its whole successful campaign for independence with Nobody as President. The Continental Congress, which was merely an assembly of delegates from the states, waged the Revolutionary War without an executive officer; in fact, decisions were made by consensus. It was only afterwards that Hamilton and his cronies federalized the US mainly so that speculators who'd bought up worthless continental currency could be repaid. The centralization of govtal powers in the Constitution reversed the whole American tradition of town meetings and self-government.

I wonder what sort of campaign would be appropriate for Canada. Nobody for Prime Minister? Perhaps some Canadian comrades have ideas.

The way to estimate the effectiveness of a Nobdy for President campaign would be to subtract from the total number of voters the number of votes cast for Ford, McCarthy, Carter, etc. I've not yet been able to find this statistic (because it doesn't seem to be reported anywhere), but I'll continue to try to track it down. Hopefully the groundwork can be laid for a more thorough-going Nobody for President campaign in 1980 - one that could be coordinated through SRAF groups and which might culminate in a concerted effort on Election Day to get out the vote at the polls for Nobody.

--Bob Palmer

I view Joffre Stewart's "A Position on Armageddon" in issue #1 of BLACK STAR as mean and reactionary in spirit and content. As a survivor of the Ukrainian pogroms I assure you that his Section IV in any Ukrainian, Polish, or Rumanian village would be understood as a summons to pogroms on Jews. It would serve the same purpose in any Arab village

The way Joffre writes is the way one writes when one wants to make pogroms. May we not see such counterrevolutionary and racist stuff again.

Jack Frager

The Freespace Alternate U collective joins in the above letter.

On the Labor Day weekend, American & Canadian anarchists for the 1st time held their long overdue continental SRAF conference. It was held in the shadow of Haymarket: Champaign, IL adjacent to Chicago, the city of our tragedy.

The spirit was great, the morale high, the participation most enthusiastic by all who participated.

Of significance is the fact that no single person or group dominated any sessions of the conference. There was almost no formal structure, and the discussions were held in the spirit of the right to be wrong; altho we agreed to disagree, we unanimously agreed that SRAF should be an all-inclusive anarchist organization, composed of fully autonomous groups and related organizations.

Thru the organs of SRAF, BLACK STAR and the Bulletin, we shall encourage groups to arrange Bakunin centennials (1876-1976) to acquaint the American and Canadian publics with the greatest revolutionary of his time; also thru meetings, lectures, courses wherever possible, and a printed bibliography.

Niccola Sacco & Bartolomeo Vanzetti: this case, always current & timely, should be brought now again to the attention of the public. In August 1977 it'll be 50 years since their legal murder by the State of Massachusetts. No other case in the history of the US has ever divided the nation into 2 such hostile groups....No other case had such an impact upon American society, on American literature, the penal institutions, & the morale of the people. Anti-American international feeling rose during the Saco-Vanzetti case to a high peak.

Our object now should be a new trial by deans of law schools....

Even with our numerically small groups, on every college campus & in every community we can get not only a sympathetic ear but active support from freedom-loving people who seek justice.... We must exercise every effort & all means to sensitize & enlighten

the American public on the Sacco-Vanzetti case....There is a large literature on the case: scholarly studies, novels, poems, plays, the movie, their letters, the record made by Pete Seeger and Woody Guthrie. All these should be employed for the 50th anniversary of the execution of Sacco & Vanzetti....

George Woodcock, a libertarian academician, author of serious books and a biographer of Proudhon & Kropotkin, was invited by American universities to teach in the US but denied entrance by the State Department, because he was thought to be dangerous. Why not form committees composed of students & academicians on campuses of universities & thus start a campaign for the entrance of Woodcock into the US & for the right to teach & for freedom of exchange of academic ideas?

The continental SRAF conference reached harmonious decisions on how to do battle for our ideas, for example, to make BLACK STAR the trumpet of the exploited, humiliated, and suffering workers, farmers, and the poor.

This anarchist conference was different than any we had before. For the 1st time, Americans & Canadians--young Americans & Canadians, male & female--conceived the conference, arranged it, and attended it. This makes an historic event.

Jack Frager
((Freespace also has a 2-page leaflet discussing the question of organization))

RICHMOND, BRITISH COLUMBIA:

Dear SRAFeds,

Once more Professor RAW (peddler of $\frac{1}{2}$ -baked fantasies laced with neo-fascist propaganda) is back at his old stand now muddying the waters in the name of "subtlety".

The "Whorf-Sapir-Korzybski Hypothesis" as he inflates the hottering scats of these pseudo-scientists and pseudo-linguists is nothing more than another elep pahntine vulgarization and corruption of George Orwell's lucid preface to 1984 written in plain English for us "morons".

If Shakespeare had been guided by the likes of Messers. Whorf, Sapir, and Korzybski (the latter's most noted disciple is the fascode Hayakawa), he'd have Hamlet say: "To exist or not to exist/That is the conundrum..."

Or if these learned dunces had written nursery rhymes "Twinkle, twinkle, little star..." would come clankng out as "Scintillate, scintillate, globule obscurate..."

Of

Of course poets must write almost exclusively for morons for they prefer Anglo-Saxon "baby talk" to the heavy-handed Latinisms of bureaucratic tyranny.

Samuel Tayler Coleridge--English poet and literary critic--simply defined poetry "as the best words in the best order", doubtless a "moronic definition" for a "moronic literary genre" that prefers Anglo-Saxon "baby talk" to polysyllabic obscurantism.

When he's at his best, Joffre Stewart writes verse. & when he's in top form Joffre chooses plain words--simple words that shine like jewels. These observations explain why he hasn't objected to my suggestion to simplify his style for he has nothing to conceal.

All poets & professional writers wrestle with words--a habit that's obviously unfamiliar to Prof. RAW & his obscurantist, fascode friends. Their polysyllabic verbal diarrhea is only designed the better to conceal the poverty and constipation of their thought.

Too bad RAW's never read Rudolf Flesch. Not only might he have learned how to spell Flesch's surname correctly but he might also have come across other "morons" that rate high on the Flesch readability scale--names like Daniel Defoe & Jonathan Swift or magazines like the "baby-talking" New Yorker.

Now we've a quote from RAW's latest mentor--Robert Heinlein--a science fictioneer whose ideas no more represent an anarchist perspective than the deeds of Jenghiz Khan. Heinlein's Jackof-all-trades is right out of the Dark Ages. Altho he prattles in his novels of centuries to come, Heinlein is really a neanderthal space jockey.

Among the "skills" catalogued for Heinlein's "superman" we see the sinister ability "to plan invasions" & "to give orders & take orders." Even in the 19th cent. Lysander Spooner-- or was it Benjamin Tucker?--clearly saw that "the only thing worse than giving an order is to obey it." Either anarchy means an end to bosses & the bossed, or it means nothing. Since science fiction is about the only thing that RAW can read I suggest he try some anarchist science fiction for a change. He could do worse than start with Eric Frank Russell's The Great Explosion in which in "K-229" an invading earthship is dealt with peaceably by an anarchist colony that forces it to take off before the crewmen all desert. Not only is Russell more readable than Heinlein, he never descends to fascism disguised as "Individualism".

If we follow RAW's career in the SRAF bulletin it does admit a certain fascist consistency. As a devoted follower of Dr. Timothy Leary long after he was exposed as an addledated fraud & fink (oh excuse me, an informer for the constabulary) RAW is at least loyal to his lights just as Ford held out for Nixon until 6 days before the latter's resignation.

Now our man RAW has escaped into the future with his star-trekking nonsense--outer space having expanded for him as his inner space contracts. Like Buckminster Fuller another snake-oil man wrapped up in his own polysyllabic gobbledegook, RAW confuses thought & the advancement of knowledge & science with the multiplication of terminology.

No doubt our hero aspires to gurudom by generating an admiring claque. But if like Aleister Crowley--the con-man extraordinary--RAW is able to achieve this dubious distinction, he'll have to appear at least to be a little more friendly.

Now being myself a prickly bastard who wouldn't give RAW the time of day (I suppose I'll be more amused by phonies as I get older), I'd hardly expect him to contact me--but for RAW to snub one of the most gentle, inoffensive anarchists I've known (perhaps because he was stealing some of RAW's limelight) while he was exhibiting at Vancouver's Habitat Conference indicates the stature of the Professor.

Finally, I advise RAW to re-read Edwin Markham's "Man With A Hoe" (no not "Hominid With An Agricultural Implement") where the poet wonders out loud what awful pronouncements will emerge "when this dumb terror will rise to speak." Perhaps RAW will recognize here himself as "the dumb terror" who acquired a smattering of knowledge that brings forth only his pathetic polysyllabic babble that terrorizes no one & causes the educated only to laugh at him & dismiss him as another California crank. But "in the country of the blind, the one-eyed man is king." As long as RAW confines himself to SRAFland & to California that's all he needs to know.

In the meantime I'll go back to my Wizard of Id comics to join 10 million other cheerful idiots & happy morons in reading the "baby-talk" captions.

That's all, Folks! Bill

PARIS, FRANCE:

The secretary of CRIFA reports that the IFA congress originally scheduled for this November is being postponed. The reason is the lack of response or preparation by those groups adhering to IFA. A new date of April 9-11, 1977 is proposed. They ask all reports and position papers be sent as soon as possible. Hmm, they didn't print their address on the notice, but presumably those receiving ave it. Refer to past bulletins.

SAN FRANCISCO, CALIFORNIA:

Why is it that everybody else's refrigerator looks full even when its empty and mine doesn't ever look anything but empty even when it's half full?

Dear SRAFnickies:

It's been some time since you've heard from us. In February, at 6 in the ayem, we awoke to find ourselves inside one of 5 buildings which burned out on Hyde Street. Recovering from the after-effects and other clamities has set us back months and months. Needless to say, he said needlessly, we lost just about everything just about but our lives. It may be just as well as we were about to burn a-l our papers and obsolete secret plans anyway. Whooee! Furthermore, altho the landlord who provided "extinguishers" which should have been in the Smithsonian years ago and no alarm system, is not obligated to even return the un-used rent (which was considerable). But we don't lament any of the losses, because for better or worse we survived unscathed. Sorry we don't have any better news to report. It takes years to rebuild what goes up in smoke in a few hours. The fire was definitely arson and the FD was called three hours earlier because sprinklers in one of the buildings went off. They say someone must have tried a number of times to burn the buildings. Hmmm. Probably either those crazy anarchists or the Red Feds.

Tom McNamara

ALBUQUERQUE, NEW MEXICO:

Dear SRAFprinters,

Many thanks for sending a sample of #63--which I enjoyed very much but have no time to respond to. Glad to see my fellow subversives Wilson and Shea represented--and Fred Woodworth tho' he's up to his usual tricks.

Yer poster was great and is up against my wall (door actually) as a permanent fixture. Here's \$5 to help with upkeep and assure me seeing future issues.

Perhaps you can run the poem xeroxed on the reverse next time & give the anti-nuke movement a plug. "Radioactive Blues" has been sent to a number of anti-nuke and peace groups, fanzines, little mags, undergrounds, etc., in the hope it will be widely reprinted. Stop the nukes!

Keep struggling.

Peace, Neal Wilgus

Box 25771, Albuquerque, NM 87125

NEW YORK CITY

Dear Jim and SRAFeds:

I was impressed by the Continental Anarchist Meeting and especially by the people who attended. Someone who was there said that from now on he would use the terms "good person" and "anarchist" interchangeably. I am really glad to be a part of a group with such wonderful and beautiful people.

It seemed to me that there was a general consensus of values at the meeting. As far as I could tell, all those present believed in anarchism (therefore anarcho-communism), workers' control, mutual aid, and nonexclusionary organizational policies. There was none of the bickering, hairsplitting, or holocentrism that have so often characterized anarchist conferences of the past. The vibes of the weekend were extraordinarily good and the meeting itself was an exemplary model for future anarchist meetings on a continental scale.

Both Sam Dolgoff, who gave a seminar on Bakunin, and Jack Frager recommended that groups hold Bakunin anniversary celebrations in their areas in the fall. Such a meeting will be held in November in New York City at Hunter College. I am reproducing below Sam Dolgoff's verbatim tape-recorded remarks to the opening general assembly of the meeting.

I am enclosing for you a copy of ROOTS magazine, "a radical ecological perspective." A copy is being sent to each SRAF group, but other people may write for a copy to: Ecology Action East, Box 344, Cooper Station, NYC 10003. Also enclosed is a copy of CAGE COMMUNICATIONS. CAGE, as you may remember, is the Coalition Against Global Enterprises; its bulletin is somewhat modeled on the SRAF bulletin in that any person in the world may have published 75 words without censorship. Finally, there is a slightly condensed text of a letter by Judith Malina of the Living Theater, which is now in Europe and which reaffirms their commitment as a SRAF group.
9/15/76

Bob Palmer

SAM DOLGOFF made the following remarks at the opening general assembly of the Continental Anarchist Meeting:

"First of all, I want to express my

deep feeling of pleasure to see all of you here today - as the beginning of an anarchist movement in the United States and Canada. It's a very great achievement. I don't know of anything like it that has occurred in the many, many years that I have been around. To me this is the main and great thing.

"The prospectus of the meeting is a bit overambitious, expecting this few hours in conference to establish a North American movement. This is patently an exaggeration. But I am interested in the groups and groupsicles and the individuals scattered all over. These are to me the organization; to me these are the movement. And I know that every young movement always has to go thru a process of trial and error - making mistakes, correcting these mistakes, and finally arriving at some sort of reasonable prospectus.

"Now, I hope and trust that all the groups and groupsicles will make it their business to apply themselves to one question - and only one question: the relevance of anarchism in modern society. That is, how to make anarchism believable and to reach people outside of it by giving them a reasonable answer to the problems that they are entitled to know about: how to carry out production and distribution, how to provide services, how to reduce bureaucracy to a minimum. The groups here, when they go home, should start talking about these things and discussing these problems. And finally after a long process of orientation, they should come up - and I know you hate this word like you hate rat poison - with a program, a reasonable understanding of what we're for and what we're against and stand for something solid so that we can make an impression.

"So I want to congratulate everyone here again. I know that when they finally plant me, you will be able to carry on with your work. Do not be sidetracked by any kind of esoteric cults or any kind of crap! Get down to business! There is only one question: How do we apply anarchist ideas here in America in a complex society? Nothing else!"

BERKELEY, CALIFORNIA:

Dear SRAFcoop,

Do what thou wilt shall be the whole of the law.

The new print job is excellent. The bulletin might actually be read now by somebody else besides the people who write the letters and look at it each month to see their own words in print.

Lawrence Smauels is correct in stating that some features of capitalism would survive in an anarchist society, since it would take non-anarchist governmental force to repress them. Indeed. The question then is: Which features of capitalism would survive? I doubt that rent could survive without the landlord monopoly backed by State power, or that interest could survive without the banking monopoly also backed by State power, or that, without rent and interest, most of the machinery of capitalist economics would survive. In short, the defining characteristics of capitalism ("the accumulation of property in a few aristocratic heaps at the expense of a great deal of democratic bare ground in between," as Ezra Heywood so memorably phrased it) would not survive.

The chief feature of capitalism that would survive, I imagine, is freedom of contract; and I wonder how anarcho-communists would attempt to abolish that, without the use of governmental force.

In answer to R.Yves Breton: When O'Neill speaks of the solar system supporting 70 trillion humans, he is not talking about colonizing planets. (Only primitive civilizations of low technology are found on planets, I would wager). O'Neill is talking about colonizing SPACE, s,p,a,c,e. The L5 area, for instance, could easily be settled by several thousand space-habitats ranging in size from space-towns of around 10,000 people up to space-cities of 4 million or more.

Dr. J.P. Vajk's estimate that 200,000,000 per year could be leaving Earth by 2026 is actually conservative. Vajk merely projected aviation history forward: the number who had flown the Atlantic in 1926 was less than the number who've been in space today. The number who fly the Atlantic each year now (1976) is 200,000,000. Project space technology forward at the same rate for the next 50 year interval, and Vajk's figure emerges: 200,000,000 per year going into space in 2026. Since technology actually proceeds synergistically, not additively, the actual figure will be much higher.

Dr. Leary's Starseed Cooperative hopes to launch 500 space-towns of 5000 members each by 2001. We also hope to double human IQ and triple lifespan in that time. Those who are interested in nitty-gritty details of this project may obtain info from Network, Box 317, Berkeley, CA 94704.

Since there is not one square yard of free land left on this planet, the importance of such space migration plans to libertarians should be obvious.

If Fred Woodworth were to do pranayama for 40 minutes a day for one month, the number of his persecutors would sharply decrease. (Some call this magick and others call it metaprogramming the bio-computer.)

It is a great privilege to be conscious in this universe. Too bad so few people on this planet are conscious. SMI2LE.

Bob Wilson

PARAGOULD, ARKANSAS:

Comrades,

My thanks to those who have contributed money to my defense, and to those who have written letters of protest to (ex-) judge Erwin (who did not run for re-election) and letters of solidarity to me. I have the deepest hope that I shall be able to help any of you should you be presented with the same circumstances.

I hope that I am in harmony with the views of other comrades when I say that what we want is not only the abolition of government but the total transformation of society in such a way that it will be responsive to the needs and desires of the people in it.

Were some beneficent theocrat (ie, god) to in some way remove all prisons, armies, courts, schools, national guards & police, this would still not be enough. Can you imagine waking up in this new anarchist society and finding a Safeway 2 blocks away? Can ITT and Coca-Cola continue to exist after the revolution? I hope not. The social revolution is the total revolution of everything and all of our relationships in society.

This transformation is possible now. The only thing necessary for its accomplishment is the coordination and cooperation of all alternative movements. Feminists must not relinquish their anarchist beliefs to get a certain amendment approved by the state. Ecologists must not give up their vegetarian ideals for the moment because they don't want to make an issue. Mystics who value the lives of trees as much as their poetry should print on cotton. All too often movements working for the aid of humanity fail to aid other movements because "our cause is more important, it would be nice to do that, but it just isn't practical".

The most fertile ground for our ideas is amongst the other progressive movements. When feminist literature is printed in the Anarchist press, and anarchist articles are in the feminist press both movements benefit. Of course there should be some outreach to the "philistines" lest we become a clique speaking only to ourselves. But this should preferably be something simple, and/or theatrical so that it can be easily understood. Obviously we should not hand out "Mutual Aid" on street corners. Some groups distribute ludicrously long passages of dogma and expect people to actually read it. (I do, but then not everyone is so polite.)

peace be with you, billy mick

St. LOUIS ANARCHISTS (St. Louis, Missouri):
SRAF,

I'd like to apologize to everyone for losing the 1st mailing list at the continental meeting in Champaign-Urbana. I got up early in the morning to try to retrieve it in the YMCA garbage. I went through trash for an hour and a half before the manager informed me I'd been looking in the wrong trash. The other trash had been carted away. The whole thing took me back to the days when I worked as a trash sorter. The problem was carelessness on my part. The 2nd list was circulated on Sunday morning and many people had to leave before the session opened, and others may not have been present when the announcements were made. Another factor, though, was that many people declined to sign either of the lists, which is understandable.

I'd like to suggest that you include a "coupon" in this issue of the bulletin, which interested parties can fill in with their name, address, and area code and phone number, which would be included in a national mailing list which could be compiled and sent out to all those who chose to be included on such a list.

MAILING LIST COUPON:

name: _____

ADDRESS: _____

PHONE NUMBER: () _____

People who prefer not to have their names or addresses listed could list phony names and or contact addresses or, of course, just not return the form at all. If those people interested in communicating with each other would take the time to do this, we'll form a core of people who can get information to each other fast and selectively, visit each other, make plans, etc. I suggest you put a rather large announcement above the coupon so that those who skim the bulletin will notice it. I don't expect too many people to respond to this--although I hope many will see the value of it--but it will, at least, provide an opportunity for those who seek a more cohesive (or whatever) movement to do it.

I got a mailing from the CU group today in which they stated that the \$91.24 left over from the conference was being given to the Dolgoff's to help defray Esther's and Sam's travel expenses. I thought it was the sense of the meeting that any additional money was going to go toward the next continental meeting being organized by Mil-SRAF. (Did I miss something here?) I do not think that the Dolgoff's should receive travel money when no one else did, unless they are somehow considerably more in need than anyone else. If this is the case, they should make these facts known. If this happened in Champaign and I missed or forgot it, I guess I missed my chance. If, however, this was not an explicitly stated agreement made by the general assembly, I call upon the Dolgoffs to mail the sum in question to Mil-SRAF so that it can be applied toward future activities. I hope that anyone who was at the conference who has any feelings about this one way or the other will write the bulletin. And I hope the Dolgoffs will respond.

Please be assured that I'm not attacking the Dolgoffs personally in the least. I'm appreciative of Sam's contributions to anarchism (see my article in Black Star #2) & Esther has always been a warm & open comrade. So, while it's true that some of my perspectives are quite different from Sam Dolgoff's, I'm questioning only the policy in the simple terms I've outlined.

One final note: at the Des Moines midwest meeting in May a midwest communications bulletin was created. As of this writing (Nov. 9) the 2nd issue of this bulletin has yet to appear because it hasn't received enough material to warrant publication. I urge mid-westers to write: Broadside Press, 1302 W. Clark St., Urbana, IL 61801.

A very sticky situation has existed in the Midwest since the Des Moines meeting. I was hoping that this would be cleared up in Champaign at the midwest caucus, & it was somewhat, but I was very stoned, unconfident, & felt distrusted so I wasn't able to express what I wanted to in the way I wanted to, & since I got into a moderator role this became a bit hairy. Well, I've discussed the situation with the Columbia anarchists & we feel that, while it's true that all the various groups have their differences, that virtually all of us are anarchists (anti-State, against hierarchy) & that we have a theoretical-practical & (potentially) psychological basis for sharing our struggles in all their forms & searchings. Our desire isn't to assess blame, to browbeat others into our weirdness--just everybody please mellow out; I've made mistakes; I've misunderstood; I'm hopelessly stubborn at times, but I'm struggling with it, if we just give each other the benefit of the doubt, & offer our criticisms carefully without invoking the wrath of the Feared, well maybe then we'll find ourselves together.

Yours for a song,
Jay Amrod, 3540 Vista, St. Louis, MO
63104 (314) 664-1838

HOUSTON, TEXAS:
Fellow Anarchists,

I just got through looking over issues #52 and #53, and I have a few comments to make. This was my first exposure to the newsbulletin, and, having read all issues of Black Star, I can say that the Bull is an excellent supplement to the magazine. The wide breadth of comments from anarchists of all persuasions is highly impressive. In fact, the letters that the Bulletin contains are, for the most part, truly adept cases of writing.

I am sending \$3 to cover the costs of preparing & mailing the bulletin to me for a year. In addition, I'm sending a dollar to pay for the extra-large "Anarchy" pin ((2 $\frac{1}{4}$ ", locking pin-back, black star button with "Anarchy overprinted)), the Kropotkin pamphlet "Revolutionary Government", the Malatesta piece, "Peace if you Want it/Smash Violence", the Dan Family pamphlet "The Spanish Triangle", plus the Situationist International "The Rise and Fall of the Spectacular Commodity Economy", plus the 2 buttons US OUT OF NORTH AMERICA and LIBERTERREAN.

The SRAF Bulletin is performing a great service by providing an open forum for world anarchists. I hope to be of use in the Houston area encouraging other like-minded individuals to support the bulletin and activities of the Social-Revolutionary Anarchist Federation.

Only through an open exchange of this sort can true dialogue take place.

News of anarchist activities and tribulations around the world helps to bring us together and increase our feelings of solidarity. All Anarchists should realize the importance of helping anarchist crusaders everywhere. Of special interest here is the trial of Billy Mick in Paragould, Arkansas. Young Billy is being railroaded by a fascist judge all because he exercised his "democratic" right of distributing "Don't Vote" leaflets.

Billy Mick's trial will help to spread the ever-increasing disenchantment with the default of liberal democracy.

The future is ours, Love & Anarchy,
H. Weissborn

CHICAGO, ILLINOIS:

The Anarcho-Feminist Notes has merged with EMMA (Feminism-Anarchism). Anyone interested in receiving copies should write Karen Johnson 1821 8th St., Des Moines, IA 50314.

hello, i'm back,
been amazed by Green Bans, Nimbin, and
blown away too by Christiania.

if this is still the same snail-crawl
circle jerk, this is the last \$ you get from
me, but i'll read a few to see.

hi Red, hi JC, & hi Krug, too. & by
the way, how're the Mt. View space freaks?
;pve. revpitopm. & imagination neil

SEATTLE, WASHINGTON:

"LUCY PARSONS, AMERICAN REVOLUTIONARY"
a new biography by Carolyn Ashbaugh, 288
pages, is now available from MOTHER EARTH
BOOKS, box 30097, Seattle, Wa 98103 for
\$3.95 in paper; \$10 in cloth.

ROCHESTER, NEW YORK:

The MUTUALIST BOOKS COLLECTIVE (formerly Buffalo Black Rose) has published their first book: 2 essays by Murray Bookchin--"Spontaneity and Organization" and "On Hierarchy and Domination".

The price is \$1 per copy, bulk rates are available.

We're a small, worker-run collective dedicated to bringing out literature of all types--essays, plays, fiction, etc.--with libertarian left significance. We of course could use any donation people feel they can afford, but just as importantly we need writers, poets, graphic artists, translators, and people with ideas to lend us support.

Thanks, Art Fenner for the Collective

RESURGENCE (CHICAGO, ILLINOIS)

Hi again,

In answer to Tyrone's SRAFFies letter ("SRAFFies" leaving me with the impression of him being condescending). I know for a fact that Tyrone considers the bulletin a bunch of shit. And only writes letters in it because the bull. is one of the few publications that print his letters.

First off Tyrone's letter seemed to be more of an attack of Jeff than on the content of his letter. Character assassination is a device usually reserved for those times when a writer lacks any convincing arguments. What he wrote in the bull was full of distortions and tends to confuse the issue rather than add any new light on the subject.

I was also under the impression that most of the people in attendance at the Des Moines conference would be anarchists, since information prior to the conference constantly referred to participants as "libertarians". Each of the tendencies that he lists were understood as being the "libertarian" portion of those groups (at least that was my impression). I do not recall Jeff or myself encouraging Tyrone to attend the conference. Mention may have been made to him about the conference because we were working together on a local project at the time. The decision to attend was entirely his own, and we accept no responsibility for it. Also we were under the impression Tyrone was a council communist (thus non-statist). This may have been misunderstood because he was extremely evasive about his politics. It was only at the conference that Tyrone showed his colors. Saying such outrageous remarks as "anarchists did not know what the state is", the Kronstadt and Paris communes "were states", and "all states are not oppressive" (give me a break) It would seem that Tyrone doesn't know what libertarian socialism means. As for the 9 people from Chicago, Tyrone miscounted, six of the people were SRAF members and the other 3 were Tyrone and his 2 roommates.

The vagueness of the principles of unity were apparent when it required approx. 30 minutes of arguing at the general assembly to even include a rejection of the state. The principles were so vague that anyone to the left of Mc Govern (George) could feel comfortable with them. Prior to the acceptance of the anti-state proposal the principles of unity were:

1. We are dedicated to self-management in all spheres of personal and social life.
2. We will develop strategy to fit the local

scene where we live and work.

3. We will exchange honest, constructive criticism and praise of our actions.
4. We agree to take meaningful action in our local areas.
5. We're against all forms of domination and place a priority on working against racism, sexism, gay oppression, and class society.

I share Jeff's organizational concepts and feel Tyrone's criticism of him wanting to start a church is off the wall. I do however share Tyrone's opinions that the organization should be based on something concrete. This is why our basis for action should be well defined so we don't spend so much time arguing our political differences and can direct all our energies towards building a free society. I would like to know where Tyrone got the idea that members could work together as long as some want to abolish all states and others are busily trying to build a new one.

I feel that Tyrone was being slanderous when he refers to "anarcho-communists" as an "Elite", since this is contrary to what anarchist-communism stands for (and I also take this as a personal insult). It is only logical that an anarchist-communist organization would only consist of anarchist-communists. I was under the impression that libertarian means anarchist and marxist means communist and therefore libertarian marxists would be anarchist-communists. Or does Tyrone define or believe that libertarian marxists are statists? As for participation with "dirty, heathens" like Tyrone, we have already done so and find there are certain limitations in this practice. Keep in mind that Makhno and Durrutti received very little positive help from the state socialists but instead were betrayed by them. Throughout history Marxists have always turned to anarchists when they needed help combating the capitalists and their goons, but always turn against the anarchists when they are no longer needed (the Russian revolution, the Spanish civil war, the Cuban revolution, are just a few examples). This has also been our experience with Tyrone, who graciously allows anarchists to do the shit work yet he insists on being the leader.

My reason for answering Tyrone's letter is because I hated his shitty attitude and feel he just wanted to get involved in one of his petty arguing trips. I don't get my jollies through verbal masturbation so this will probably be my last letter concerning this subject. Tyrone, why don't you go f*** off...

off some where and waste someone else's time. Try checking out PL or some other vanguardist group.

Seditiously Yours, Mi Mi

RESURGENCE (CHICAGO, ILLINOIS)

Fellow Srafeds,

I had intended to respond to Tyrone's letter but MI Mi beat me to it and has already said anything that I would have. All I can say is I have lived to regret any association I have ever had with him. I only wish manure merchants like Tyrone would peddle their bullshit elsewhere.

I caught the remark Fred Woodworth made about "boasting" in the bulletin. Since the remark seemed to refer to us, I should like to clarify why the letter describing our May activities was written. In a previous bulletin someone wrote that they would like to know what sort of activities other SRAF members were involved in, thus we responded. We didn't necessarily believe that we had accomplished a great deal and didn't want people to think so. It's good to hear Fred's group distributes 50,000 pieces of propaganda a year, though, and we only hope that someday we'll be as successful.

This brings us to the subject of the Black Star (the next issue should be out by this time). In the last bulletin, Joffre has accused me (not only myself since lay-out decisions are made collectively), of censoring his articles due to my alleged "jewish bias". First of all it should be apparent to anyone who looks over our pages that there were numerous typos and errors in the other pages we laid out. We did not print corrections to the other articles either. Our decision was based upon space limitations. We would rather the space be used for new articles than for corrections to previous issues. Secondly, if I (since he seems to want to make me the "culprit") was really full of "Jewish bias" (pro-Zionism) what makes Joffre think I would have helped in laying out his articles in the first issue? Third as to the question of Resurgence agreeing or not agreeing to work on articles Joffre tries to make this into an issue of free speech. What Joffre fails to mention is that the preparation of a magazine article requires a great deal of labor (much more so than for the bulletin). Are we employees of SRAF, obligated to expand our energies to further Joffre's views merely because he calls himself a member of SRAF? What ever happened to voluntary association and self-management? Joffre is not defending free speech, he merely wishes to force us to become his mouthpiece. With regards to his anti-semetic view point, this is

someting we absolutely refuse to do. It is entirely up to the consciences of the other BS groups, whether or not they will do likewise.

Getting on to other matters, everyone will notice that issue #4 has only 24 pages. The reason for this was that Freespace's lay-out was slow in arriving. At the time we decided to go ahead with the material we already had, we were 7 weeks past the original deadline and 3 weeks past the deadline Bob Palmer had suggested at the SRAF conference. Several of the news items were rapidly becoming out-of-date. We talked it over with Madison SRAF and MAYday, who agreed that we could not afford to delay the issue any longer. Therefore we went ahead and took the 24 pages that we did have, to Madison so that they could make the negatives for the printing plates.

We received Freespace's pages about 2 weeks after we had taken the other copy to Madison. Since Madison had already made the negatives and Freespace's material was not topical, we figured it would be better to hold onto their 10 pages for the next issue. These pages will get us off to a good start on #5.

As long as there are no objections, Resurgence wishes to act as to coordinator for the full year of 1977. We would like to increase the frequency of the magazine from one every six months (the present rate) to one every four months. To get the next issue out in 4 months we are suggesting the following deadlines: Deadline for submitting articles to production groups-Dec. 28, Deadline for finished copy-Jan. 19, Copy to Madison-Feb 1, Negatives sent to printer Feb. 16, New issue out by March 1. We will get in touch with the production groups directly, before these deadlines are set for certain.

Yours for the Rebellion,
Jeff

CHICAGO, ILLINOIS:

Dear SRAfriends,

Regarding the problem of anarchists communicating with non-anarchists, which has been discussed by Bill Hall and Bob Wilson, I agree with Wilson that short sentences and limited vocabulary, a la Rudolph Flesch, do not represent the answer. For one thing, I don't think our communications should be aimed at some mythical entity known as the masses, who are presumed to be able to understand only Dick-and-Jane sentences. As a professional writer and editor, I've long believed that the best way to communicate is to be yourself. If you're a working stiff don't try to write like an intellectual. If you're an English professor, don't try to write blue-collar prose. Write it the way it naturally comes out, and you will find the audience that understands and appreciates the way you write—or they will find you.

Much of the anarchist writing I've seen is natural and makes good reading, especially compared to the dreary Marxoid shit that passes for prose on much of the left or the imitations of Ayn Rand and Russell Kirk that one sees on the right. I would venture the generalization that anarchists tend to be better writers than socialists or anarchist libertarians because their heads are freer. Inner mental freedom has a lot to do with good writing.

For anyone who wants to improve their writing, I would recommend the essay "Politics and the English Language" by George Orwell, which should be available in any well-stocked public or university library. It's one of the best essays on writing, especially political writing, I've ever read. Orwell gives six rules for writing that is free of crap and that communicates honestly what we mean to say: i) Never use a metaphor, simile or other figure of speech which you are used to seeing in print. ii) Never use a long word where a short one will do. iii) If it is possible to cut a word out, always cut it out. iv) Never use the passive where you can use the active. v) Never use a foreign phrase, a scientific word or a jargon word if you can think of an everyday English equivalent. vi) Break any of these rules sooner than say anything outright barbarous."

Thomas Jefferson was a lifelong politician and slave-owner, but I believe we can learn something about writing from him. What he said about drafting the Declaration of Independence could apply to a lot of polemical writing, including arguments,

never before thought of, not merely to say things which had never been said before; "but to place before mankind the common sense of the subject, in terms so plain and firm as to command their assent, and to justify ourselves in the independent stand we are compelled to take. Neither aiming at originality of principle or sentiment, nor yet copied from any particular and previous writing, it was intended to be an expression of the American mind, and to give to that expression the proper tone and spirit called for by the occasion."

Both Jefferson and Orwell strove for simplicity and clarity, but neither, I think, would submit his work to a readability scoring.

Bob Shea

SRAFeds: one day after 5 US flags burned in NOTA anti-electoral gathering.

In Bull#53, lines 17-23, words at the left margin are indistinctly reproduced: to/delegates/shd/to/Jews/Zionism/archs.

In the penultimate paragraph of Bruce Trigg's letter, BT asks were letters received by Black Star and why were any such letters not printed. I have written to Black Star to correct the slip and error introduced into "A Position On Armageddon" by typist(s). But as I pointed out in Bull#52, editorial practice is influenced by a Jewish chauvinism that covers up for Zionism. I want to see that Jewish chauvinism undone and "A Position On Armageddon" strengthened by the corrections that remain to be made. But what is this B. Trigg up to? I indicate that we shd try to encourage the Palestinians in the Statelessness which is our thing, and Trigg makes some snide, negative remarks about it. It appears that Trigg is using an "anti-antisemitism" cover to attack anarchism. In many ways, my letter in #52 disposes of BT's letter in #53.

In #52 I wondered: "if Zionism determines the limits of Jewish thought?" Perhaps Zionism can be assessed as playing such a role in limited instances, as at 339 Lafayette St, NYC, but I think it is better to say that a certain Jewish chauvinism sets the limits of Jewish thought, including Jewish so-called "anti-Zionism". Obviously, anarchism might seem rude to such chauvinism (as it might to any chauvinism) and cannot respect such limits without risking its own integrity.

The quote of Heinlein by Anton perhaps helps us to understand why news-agent Pilgrim and others want to regard Heinlein as a fascist. Neither pacifists nor anarchists "plan an

invasion", "take orders, give orders" "fight efficiently, die gallantly". Anyone who sticks up a clothing store has planned an invasion ("casing a joint"). Heinlein's light and detached propaganda for aggression & violence moves rather easily into a male chauvinist barbarism.

Out of approximately 21 workshops in the continental SRAF Labor Day gathering, I attempted to give 2: How Do We Escalate the Attack on Israel/Zionism? and How Do We Develop Jesus Anti-Christ Into the History (and histories) of An-Anarchism? Most people in the pro-anti-Christ workshop accepted that Jesus was an an-anarchist: about 6 persons (Bruce of St. Catherines went on the nod from not sleeping well on a church bench). An NYC Yippie (who was raped in an alley in the Israel to which she expects to return) feels a need for a piece of literature on this subject in order to reach the various Jesus freaks & Moon-nuts of Gotham. (Hey, Friends of Malatesta, what's happening?) The Attack Israel/Zionism workshop had about 1/6 or 1/7 the attendance of the other workshop partly owing to the false & misdirecting information given to Mary Beth Yakoubian (connected with something like: Students for Telling the Truth about the Middle East) by the desk man at the Y where workshop met. However, in reporting back to the general assembly regarding the 1 to 1 that constituted the workshop, I cd sum up by noting that the integrity of an-anarchism is very much challenged by this Zionism/Israel issue--& the anti-Zionist pro-anarchist tenor of the remark was enthusiastically cheered by Mary Beth Yakoubian (a phys.Ed.teacher who'd held a workshop on Body Freedom: stretching&massage.) However, both workshops fell short of what I'd call going to work. Showing a pacifist how Zionism or Jewish chauvinist bias is making a mockery out of both pacifism & an-anarchism, is less than what might be meant by "escalating the attack on Israel/Zionism". Agreement that Jesus was one of us is less than reaching history writers w/this message&getting them to re-write their histories. In one respect, the anti-christ/History workshop was a success&failure. A guy from NYC who'd puttered around in theology at Fordham etc was strongly persuaded that Jesus was an anarchist like us (perhaps well before our meeting), but I cd not get the guy to stop calling Jesus "Christ". Other news: the pacifist in the Attack Israel/Zionism workshop, had, earlier in the summer, been to a Fellowship of Reconciliation education affair in Colorado where 29 or 30 of the 30 learners had taken, he reported, an an-anarchist position. This judgment -as challenged (privately) by one Irving Messic who was at the same FOR

affair,&thinks that perhaps only the 2 of them at the continental gathering were anarchist. I hope that the truth might yet lie somewhere in between.

The workshop on organization,w/a prep sheet prepared by Bruce(St.Catherines) tried to settle the future of SRAF, so to speak. Pete Ridley spoke that it was a question of whether SRAF shd remain the umbrella organization that it is or tighten up, slough off, & become, in Bruce's phrase, "an effective revolutionary organization". Pete Ridley, who's been to England, said that when UK an-anarchists got themselves together in an an-anarchist Federation of Great Britain, they got too tight knit, got into each others hair, w/the result that they broke up with the extreme hostility toward each other that continues in many of them not speaking to each other. This was an argument for carrying on under the umbrella. I think myself& Bob Palmer reminded wd-be changers that SRAF does have principles,&the Yippie who was raped in Israel,&Ukrainian Jack(NYC), also seemed to speak for the an-anarchy that wd embrace us all. I argued against pitching more to the "class struggle" bias because the working class is so much a white racist working class&already we see "class struggle" organizations not wanting to disturb the racism of this white WC&taking weird racist positions on the racist issues of the hour, like "busing"&Marquette Park (how many Wobs marched to Marquette Park? Or why didn't they?) We desperately need a human consciousness somewhat more than what too frequently passes as a "class struggle consciousness", & some people wd rather not think about the Ruling Class at all when I point out that it(CFR, 58 E. 68th St, NYC) is 25% Jewish. (What kind of "class consciousness" is it that doesn't even want to look at the Ruling Class?) Jeff Stein disagreed w/me when I spoke that racism in the working class is more virulent than in upper classes, but next day, in the self-mgmt workshop led by Dolgoff, the latter seemed to reinforce my point of view where he noted that the 'working class' can be rather militant on economic issues, but reactionary bastards, so to speak, on everything else.

Speaking of self-mgmt, SAT morning was lost to an-anarchy because it seems that an-anarchists aren't well out of bed before noon (no revolutions before 1 pm please). We might be considered a failure at self-scheduling: I wd schedule my workshop(s) at an unconflictful time, but someone wd come behind&schedule a workshop that conflicted with mine. Out of consideration, I rescheduled to morning-after-breakfast hours--but an-anarchists aren't the smartest about getting up in the morning. Some people from Canada wanted scheduling that wd allow them to get to all workshops (one of my ambitions too). When they saw this was not

happening, they split: did not attend the conference. I missed the skinny-dip (but I must wear earplugs anyway). Friends of Emma Goldman were prepared to host 300 of us, but to estimate in the 60's would be rather much closer to actual attendance. SRAF would have no problem keeping a kitchen in common with Peacemakers since a few were vegetarian. They guy from Frankfort am-Main showed us how to break our fellow hum-n's necks (workshop on self-defense). Oh, yes, I should make clear: there was no sense that we should move away from the umbrella concept. Yippies certainly mix energetically & well, but sometimes I wonder how efficiently they're absorbing the acrobatic concept: one Yippie Mike claimed that he was an an-anarchist because he smokes! What happened to the attendance list that was to be mailed to all who signed it?

J. Stewart, advocate of the Anti-Christ, 6114 S. May, 60621

AGITATIONAL MATERIALS RECEIVED:

Editions Entente, 12, rue Honore-Chevalier 75006 Paris, France has published a 340 page volume: "La Revanche de Bakounine ou de l'Anarchisme à l'Autogestion". Couverture couleur--48 FTTC. 20%-40% discounts.

LEFTWARD, vol. 1 #3 has issued from Box 429, Stn E, Toronto, Ontario. It includes an Editorial on what it means to be "on the left"; Viva la Causa, by Rebecca Schecter; Poems by Federico Arcos; Sugar & Wealth by Calvin Normore; The Great Canadian Postal Strike by D.S. Mitchell. \$1.00.

ANARCHIST BLACK HAMMER #8, Box 171, Stockton, CA 95201 including mostly valuable reprints of articles not widely seen and some original material. Graphic appearance is still improving, with a good drawing by Red Warthan of Emma Goldman on the cover.

Pacific Street Films, 280 Clinton St., Brooklyn, NY 11201 has 3 films for distribution of interest to anarchists: "Frame-Up! The Imprisonment of Martin Sostre"; "Red Squad"; "Inciting to Riot". \$45 each.

Freespace Altnate U, 339 Lafayette St., NYC 10012 invites all persons interested in forming an Anarchist Writers' Club to write and participate.

LET MY PEOPLE GO, is a new mimeo newsletter put out by a prisoners' support group: Prison Release Project, 2233 Highland Ave. #206, Lombard, IL 60148. The letter (12 pages, 8½x14" this issue) will be monthly and they request donations.

CLOQUET, MINNESOTA:

Noel & Marie Murray are in prison in Ireland under sentence of death.... The Murrays are refused association w/other prisoners. They are allowed no visitors except his parents,... who are over 70 yrs old, very sick, & unable to visit. They're allowed no books, publications, letters, etc., etc. Condemned to death, they are pitched into physical isolation from each other, from other prisoners, & the outside world, and even minimal human communication. This is the inhuman treatment & psychological torture they're undergoing while they await death by hanging. The conditions are so bad that Noel withdrew his appeal to the Supreme Court as a form of protest. The press in Britain & Ireland have been silent even in reporting on the protest meetings & opposition to the hanging, even tho the same press reported on the world-wide opposition to the death penalty in Spain.... the Dublin govt, that has already booked a hangman in England, put pressure on Spain to commute death sentences.

The Irish Times and Hibernia Fortnightly Review were seized & fined by the govt when attempting to criticize the "trial" of the Murrays. The nat'l president of the ecumenical Student Christian Movemt in Ireland was arrested only because he criticized the "trial".

When the Murrays were sentenced to die by hanging, the opinion of some of the Media was that the Dublin govt would commute the sentences. Several prominent individuals called on the govt not only to commute the death sentences but also to abolish the death penalty altogether.

....The Dublin govt, ever the servant and a-pendage of the British Govt, has been put under great pressure by Britain, to prohibit any & all political opposition, by any means necessary; the case of the Murrays is a test case. The comments in public & in private, of certain Dublin-govt Ministers, especially Mr. Cooney, Minister for Justice, have been full of bigotry & bias against the Murrays. The trial itself was outstandingly vicious. I myself was in Dublin during the "trial" of the Murrays; I have never in my life witnessed a bigger frame-up fraud. The bias of the 3 "special court" Judges, Pringle, Martin, & Carroll, against Marie & Noel, throughout the trial, was shocking. The only evidence against them was one statement extracted under torture by the police which the Accused vehemently repudiated thru their lawyer; a serious & formal statement of complaint (against the torture) made by their lawyer to the police at the time of their interrogation was declared by the police to "have been lost" & could not be produced at the trial.

Marie & Noel Murray didn't accept that they were getting a fair trial after a 3rd accused individual was granted a separate trial; he

suffered a complete mental breakdown in the witness box, recalling the torture by police. The Murrays felt they shd be granted a new trial before anormal court. But they were condemned without a jury trial on the basis of a statement extracted by torture of Noel.

The individual who was originally jointly charged w/the Murrays had his trial postponed so he could receive medical treatment; a civilian doctor&a doctor of the rank of military-Commandant both testified he'd sustained injuries consistent w/having been beaten up while in custody. The Judges subsequently disallowed this 3rd individual's good testimony,despite the fact they had previously ruled otherwise.

The trsreatment of political prisoners in (anglo) Irish jails&police stations is notoriously brutal. The beatings meted out by police in the Irish South are as severe as those of the hated Royal Ulster Constabulary in the North. Dublin Castle(as always)served the imperial Anglo.

Some of the methods for extracting "confessions" used by the police in southern Ireland described by prisoners,include all the torture methods used in the North for which the British govt was indicted&found guilty at Strasbourg,the World Court of Human Rights (which is recognized by the British govt). In the case of Noel Murry,he was hung upside down over a toiletand his head kept in it while it was flushed and while police urinated into it; this type of treatment being carried on for over 18 hours. In Marie Murray's case they simply let her hear the torture proceedings in the next cell until she was so convinced they were going to ki-i her husband that she was prepared to tell any lie to save him.

Marie Murray is aged 27. From the time she left school she worked for 8 years in the V Civil Service in the Gaeltacht(the gaelic-speaking region in Ireland); she left there in 1974 when she married Noel. Noel Murray is aged 26. When he left school he worked as a metal fabricator & was a member of a trade union as was his wife. He's opposed state violence for the past 10 years--from nuclear warfare to the tortures in Long Kesh; he was one of the principal organizers of anti-Vietnam War demonstrations in Ireland. Marie Murray was active in the Civil Rights Movement in Gaeltacht,&(ironically)involved in many activities on behalf of political prisoners. Marie&Noel Murray have been sentenced by a "special court" to death, which denied them a jury. They weren't allowed to present evidence,nor were they present for most of the trial including verdict and sentencing. Please send letters of protest to:

Minister for Justice, 72 - 76, St.
Stephen's Green, Dublin 2, Ireland;
Ambassador, Embassy of Ireland,
2234 Massschusetts Ave. NW
Washington, DC 20008

Seamas Cain

VILLE de GASPE, QUEBEC:

Dear Comrades/Brothers and Sisters,
Enclosed find money order for \$3. Will send more later when I can. Also please take note of change of address . I also hereby post notice that Halifax SRAF is now defunct. Pity it's been 5 yrs now since Hal-SRAF began. As SRAF is coming in for some heavy flak regarding us being a mythical organisation etc, it would be nice if the comrades in each area contacted the bulletin and said which SRAF groups exist and which do not. I myself am pretty sure that Toronto,Edmonton, Maine Fed.of Anarchists, and others do not.

First of all I'd like to comment on the SRAF Continental Conference in early September in Champaign. I came to the conference fired up with all sorts of ideas about tighter discipline,centralised organisation,membership cards, etc, the fruit of much idle speculation and little action, particularly as SRAF had been in the forefront of my mind in regard to Anarchism for the previous 5 years. I told myself and anyone willing to listen that this conference would either make or break SRAF as a quote organisation. However as the weekend wore on, and I listened to the various groups and individuals who were really active in the revolutionary struggle, I realised that my ideas were for the birds. First of all, it was obvious to anyone who looked at the diffuse groups and individuals who made up the Eastern and Mid-Western sections of SRAF that any a-tempt at too tight or centralised an organisation would be suicidal for the movement as it then existed. The alternative--a loosely knit federated structure such as we've always had, obviously answered our needs better at this time, at leas- until we've had time to grow and expand more. This was the alternative that I thus voted for, so if I seemed inconsistent to some of the comrades at the time, that was the way my mind worked.

From the point of view of personal contacts--important to any Anarchist gathering, it was the best. I've never met such a loving,giving,beautiful bunch of people in my whole life. I've been to Anarchist conferences in Britain and Canada where the spirit was either lukewarm or could be cut with a knife. This

SRAF Federation Bulletin #54 -- sixteen

wasn't true of Champaign. I think Esther Dolgoff summed it up best when she was about to leave, she turned to me and said "You know Peter, you young people have made me feel like a young girl again" (she's 70 plus). I speak for Sam also when I tell you that you have given us back fresh hopes for the movement."--anyway thanks to the Champaign comrades who made it all possible--they know who I mean. I can only reiterate Esther's statement for myself, as after coming from an area of low political action it gave me fresh vision and hopes for the future. I was on an emotional high for weeks afterwards. The tangible results, the official setting up of a yearly continental conference beginning next year in Milwaukee, and the furnishing of "official" papers for SRAF observers to the IFA Congress, plus the important workshops were all great, but for me the people were the thing. Enuff emoting about past glories.

Wish to hell Jurgen Kuhl from Vancouver would at least accompany his Esperanto letters with an English translation. Very frustrating not to be able to read his interesting letters in SRAF bulletin. Nobody objects to Esperanto letters in SRAF, but please remember the object is to communicate with each other--in whatever language.

Also see our last Bulletin #53 had its usual sprinkling of nuts, obsessionists, etc. So-me like Joffre and Robert Anton Wilson we've had with us over the years, and have come to regard them with affectionate if at times exasperated regard. If the title "nut" or "obsessionists" fits wear it.

I cannot however, let Tyrone Wall's letter in #53 escape without comment. First of all we've been subjected to Tyrone's vituperous attacks on Anarchism and Anarchists for long enough. For the last 5 years Tyrone has been calling SRAFeds all sectarians, sexists, etc, and it's time somebody new replied to him. The conference in Des Moines that Tyrone refers to, was, from the cross section of comments I received in Champaign, a total disaster. Tyrone helping to make it so. I've often wondered why Tyrone continues to keep writing to SRAF when he so obviously feels we are beyond his help. As to his criticism of Jamie Barnes statement in #51, I suggest that he go help make the revolution happen as Jamie is doing in Auburn, and that won't leave him time for snide comments.

I'm voting this election day here in Quebec (Nov 15). Most young people here with spirit and brains are going to vote for the Parti Quebecois who will lead us to the

promised land of separation from Kanada, socialism, etc. Bullshit I've tried to tell them (some of them), the Parti Quebecois is a bourgeois party, and will lead us only to further exploitation and international capitalism. However as yet they are not gonna listen. Perhaps if the PQ do gain power, they will realize their mistakes & become anti-political. Who knows.

Finally I'd like to say hello again to all the friends I made in Champaign/Urbana and hope to see you next year in Milwaukee, if not sooner.

Yours fraternally, In love and struggle, Pete Ridley

SPOKANE, WASHINGTON:

Dear friends,

It's been quite awhile since I've been in contact with any of you. I've decided to get involved in political work again and so I'm writing to make contact and to let you know where my head is at. I don't know if I'll "re-join" SRAF again, but I'd like to receive the SRAF bulletin (I can send some money as soon as I get my unemployment check).

At the present time I still consider myself an anarcho-communist. I've been trying to do some studying and thinking and analyzing my political outlook. I've a lot of questions and doubts and I'm hoping to find some answers from some of you. I've had some questions in my mind about anarchism that have bothered me so much that I've seriously considered joining the SWP (they're now organizing in Spokane and I was invited to join). I still don't know whether these problems can be resolved.

When I decided to re-join the political movement again after 2 years I wanted to make sure that I didn't get involved with groups like YIP and all the garbage that took place here during Expo 74. I wanted to get serious and make a positive contribution to whatever I could. I then applied for membership in the IWW. I also wanted to make sure that my goals were realistic and wanted to take part only in groups that were serious about building a new society and were willing to organize. I have met some serious Wobblies and that's what influenced me to join the IWW the first time 3 years ago. I hope that there are still some Wobblies around that are really serious about building One Big Union!

Well, before I get carrying on too long, I want to bring up one area that troubles me about anarchism in the hope that people will write me and discuss this subject. It has to do with the problem of crime in an anarchist

society. What's to be done? Obviously, there is going to be rapes, murders, child beatings, etc. How will they be dealt with? What will prevent people from taking their freedom as license to do whatever screwed up thing they want? I could go on and on but I'd like to start here.

I can see my letter's getting long so I'd better close. I hope to hear from some of you. Please write.

Yours for the works,
Rik Smith, Box 672, Spokane, WA 99210

ROSENDALE, NEW YORK:

This is the 5th time since this spring that we have tried to open up a line of communication between ourselves and SRAF. We have tried a variety of addresses without success and wish we could link up somehow. We've never received a reply from anyone. Are you really there?

We are a small, FREE ASSOCIATION of anarchists who agree that anarchism means the abolition of all states everywhere. From that point we go freely on without dogma and with efforts towards our liberation.

We are located about 100 miles north of New York City and that is where we heard about SRAF and have been trying to link up ever since. Please get us in touch as we've exhausted our supply of contact numbers.

MID-HUDSON ASSOCIATES,
Box 310, Rosendale, NY 12472

TORONTO, ONTARIO:

NEW HOOTOWN PRESS, 12 Hart House Circle, University of Toronto, Toronto, Ontario, Canada has issued a new catalog of radical literature, history, and worker-oriented publications.

PARIS, FRANCE:

Dear Comrades of SRAF,

As a member of the SRAF group in Champaign-Urbana, Illinois, and one of the people presented at the Sept. conference to be an observer at this Congress (3d IFA), I am now living in Paris and have established contact with IFA through Grigoroff. As I understand the reason behind their letter is the desire to establish stronger contacts between anarchist groups of other countries, and to gain a fuller global perspective of the anarchist movement. Therefore the request for this report. It is being asked of all congress participants (members & observers), and the hope is to publish the findings afterwards in order to have a point of reference for future congresses, and to gain an overall perspective on the anarchist movement. The congress which is regarded as a working

meeting, appears to be important in breaking down the isolation which presently exists between countries, as well as spreading information on what is happening. Because we in the States are too often dependent on the capitalist media for news, it is urgent that we respond to this call for solidarity, and put aside differences that may exist between groups of different countries, such as the existence here in Europe of more structured organizations.

I end with IFA's request that someone respond soon, and to convey the strong feelings of comradeship I've experienced so far here in Europe.

Yours, Resa (Dudovitz)

CRIFA, Commission for the Preparation of the 3rd Congress of IFA. To SRAF

Dear Comrades,

With a sense of urgency we ask you:

- 1) To process a verification of the addresses on the enclosed list in order to ascertain if they are still correct, and to also send us other addresses of organized groups
- 2) To send us an analytic report of the economic, political and social situation of the US, and on the actual state of the anarchist movement—groups, federations, mutual relations between them and activities (publications, meetings, propaganda, etc), and to also comment on the possibilities of creating a federation containing and uniting all the anarchist groups in the US into one national territorial totality.

Festive greetings,

Gr. Balkanski, the Secretary
The address of the Commission remains the same:
Umbral-Llop, 33 rue des Vignoles
75020 Paris France

But please send responses to this letter to:

Georges Grigoroff
20 bis rue Tourlaque, 75018 Paris, France
(we here at SRAFprint are verifying those addresses, but we don't want to be the only ones to send the report they request.)

FARSTA, SWEDEN:

Mi dankas vin, la gek-doj en la SRAF-kilektivo, kiu donis lokon en la bulteno por esperanto-teksto. Mi kunsendas 4 usonajn dolarojn por simensi kontribui al la afranko Samtempe mi volas kapti la okason gratuli kdon Lasse Simpanen el Finlando kiu reagis pri la alvoko en L.D. pri kontribuajo en la SRAF-bulteno. Ankau mi esperas ke ni aj Japanaj kdoj efektivigos sian promezojn en n-ro 52, ke ili sendos informojn pri japania liberecana agado.

Kiel la mondciutano faris, mi gratulas kdon Jurgen Kuhl pro la Esperanto-SAT-ekspozicio ce "UN Habitat forum", kaj pro lia,

kaj de k-do Bill Peers fruktodona por-esperanta laboro en la usona liberecana medio. Dankon ankau pro la belaj bildkartoj el Vankovro al la Stokholma L.L.-teamo.

Sennaciecaj Salutojn!
P. Persson, Sveriges Tidskriftsvagen 14,
S-12352 Farsta, Sweden

FLORENCE, MASSACHUSETTS:
Comrades,

We just had a conference over in Amherst that was billed as anarchist and in some respects was. Lots of academics showed up but a few real live anarchists drifted in as well. The event was good for us in several ways. We sold a lot of books, enabling us to expand our stock and so on, we made new contacts and personalized some old ones, and we really got a lot of new ideas about things that we as a collective can do.

One point of discussion with active social revolutionary anarchists was the SRAF. Practically everyone that I talked to had bad things to say about SRAF. "Anarcho-hippies" useless, aimless, thoughtless and so on. We could only report that since we decided to join SRAF some 2 or 3 months ago we have had NO contact with anyone in SRAF with the exception of receiving 20 copies of Black Star to sell at the conference. Of course, there are two equally important questions to be asked: "What is SRAF doing for us?" and "What are we doing for SRAF?" So far, the answer to both is NADA. Excepting of course that you print and we distribute. Business by any other name is business. ORDERING: 10 Spanish Triangle; 10 Property; 2 Rebellion; 50 US Out buttons; one each of everything else that you have in print. And a new copy of your publication list and any copies of the bulletin you may have since we have no copies at all and can't seem to get any, and some reassurance if possible.

In struggle, Mike Quinlan
for Spark Books, Box 195, Florence, MA 01060

BROCKTON, MASSACHUSETTS:
SRAF,

Every so often I get in the mail a sheet such as the SRAF bulletin, No Governor, or Black Star. As I no longer want these publications, and as you are the source of all of them, I thought it a good idea to kill 3 birds with one stone.

It might be objected that I seem unable to make up my mind as to whether I want the bulletin, especially as I've discontinued and re-continued it several times. Well, as a matter of fact, I did not solicit it in the first place. It showed up at my door one

day of its own accord. And I admit that at first I was delighted. Then I began to discover things--things such as the fact that the list of affiliated organizations gives a vastly inflated view of SRAF's strength; such as the fact that for sheer insanity and ignorance coupled with verbal filth SRAF is unrivaled; such as the fact that the group's promise of freedom of expression was a phony; such as the fact that the organization, then not exclusively male chauvinist, as it is today, did everything it could to kill feminism in its ranks; and so on and so forth.

I thought, well, if SRAF claims to be free and is not, why not go over to the Reds, who at least make no pretense at being free? This was a reasonable step for me, as I had previously sympathized with Marxism-Leninism without really understanding its principles. As I studied Marx, Lenin, and Stalin more and more, I found a depth and subtlety which is completely lacking in anarchistic theory. Why, Paul Goodman, to me the least unintelligent of the libertarian thinkers, put down social ills to the suppression of homosexuality in adolescent boys! A fine counterpart for the ideas of surplus value and the materialist conception of history.

So please--no more!

John MacLeod

SRAFPRINT (Mountain View, California):
Dear SRAFniki,

Since raising the issue in a recent bulletin, I've gained more insight into the problem of slowdown of participation of anarchists in this project: recent issues of the bulletin have taken over one month to be delivered in some cases, and almost all cases show delivery times of between 2 and 3 weeks. Formerly, this bulletin only rarely took 3 weeks, and sometimes only 3 days passed for this bulletin to reach points in the mid-West. This increasing delay in delivery time causes responses to be returned late, further delaying the next issue. After the holiday mail loosens this may improve--but maybe not.

Also, I'd like to endorse Pete Ridley's request that those responsible for listing a SRAF group address please review their situation and determine if the address is still active. We will not remove any address unless mail is returned undeliverable or else someone from the group tells us to remove the address. But 3rd class mail isn't always returned, even when we print "return postage guaranteed".

Freeequally, Jim

NEW YORK CITY:

The International Libertarian Labor Fund, Box 733, New York, NY 10003 has issued the following press release:
(edited by SRAFprint)

"Spain's extra-legal CNT has set up an underground central administration in Madrid with a clandestine press sold openly in the streets, defying what it terms 'great repressive restraints', and issuing an appeal to the world.

The new CNT National Committee now has proclaimed its existence at home and abroad by launching an organ, 'CNT', and appeals for its support. It recognizes and addresses the International Libertarian Labor Fund for aid from North America.

At home, where the formerly repressed political parties of the Left are now seeking acceptance by the regime of King Juan Carlos, the CNT says it will stick to "the time-honored workingclass path toward the social revolution", and warned workers against "the garrisons of reaction now crouching in the anterooms of power."

The CNT is back in action in all of the Iberian towns. The last number of our reborn Confederation organ has gathered reports on the progress of rebuilding from every one of the Regional Federations.

Although still underground, the CNT is back in action in assemblies and congresses, meetings and propaganda, strike picketing and graffiti, asserting liberties that we members of the Confederation take upon ourselves without expecting any concessions.

It is back in action in the factories and the streets, in the fields and in the schools, against the armed violence of the state and the alienating exploitation of capitalism.

We are in the process of overcoming the terrible consequences imposed by 40 years of dictatorship and fascist repression. Those consequences were especially felt by an organization like ours, in which dogmatism and servility, authoritarian centralism and concealed fear, could never take hold without negating our own federative and anti-hierarchical principles.

Fellow workers (compañeros), your labors have borne fruit! A CNT organ is launching a new era! On this crucial occasion, we call on all to surmount discouragement and fortuitous differences, to join their wills in agreement on the basic thing--to contribute generously to mutual aid and understanding, in order to give our organization the vigor and the impetus that the occasion demands.

Polemics & even discouragement are human, and are part & parcel of a vehicle like ours, governed by the freedom and self-criticism of each individual. The difficulties have been & will be great. We have no need to air now our impressive history--in war and peace, in the underground and in prisons, in life and in death. Hopes & skepticism, youth & age, vitality & experience, are fusing together again in our resurgence.

For what we have been, are, and will be, for the CNT, for the self-emancipation of the workers of all lands, we make this appeal so that the organization may wax strong, and so that its press may once more serve as the militant voice of the anarchosyndicalists of our ancient Iberian land.

When the day comes for the social transformations that workers long for, the revolutionary syndicalism of which the CNT is the historic representative will again be the liberating impetus of direct action against which the garrisons of reaction now crouching in the anterooms of power will be of no avail.

The International Libertarian Labor Fund, Box 733 Cooper Station, New York, NY 10003, will transmit contributions for the new CNT organ directly into Confederation hands in Madrid. Such donations should be marked "CNT"organ" in a corner of the check or money order to distinguish from ILLF's overall campaign for the CNT.

The Fund was created and is administered in New York by a board of representatives sponsored by and accountable to a range of national and local organizations including the Ad Hoc CNT Committee, Catholic Peace Fellowship, General Defense Committee, Industrial Workers of the World, Libertarian Book Club, Local Internacional de Nueva York, and the War Resisters League. The board is legally chartered as Local 8 of the General Defense Committee.

Vol #1 #1 of a new anarchist publication is now available:

NO LIMITS
Box 2605
Madison, WI 53701
Cover price is free but they ask
\$4 for subs, \$12 for institutions,
free to prisoners.

How Does One Govern the Boors?

by Everett E. Luoma

Bob Wilson writes in SRAF No. 53: "The stylistic illiteracy of the masses is not esthetic merely, but functional. It is, I believe, a central aspect of the 'burden of nescience' discussed in Illuminatus, in that only a population reduced to this (barely) hominid level can be easily governed. There is no advantage to be found in reducing ourselves to that level of semantic blindness. The class (and caste) con works by allowing the masses manual dexterity while denying them symbol dexterity; at the same time, the ruling class children are educated the opposite — high verbal, low (manual). The only hope for humanity is to increase everybody's intelligence on all levels (and to achieve space migration and life extension, preparatory to immortality.)"

How Bob Wilson perceives the world can be derived from the above. But first several questions must be answered. Who are "the masses" and who is the "ruling class"? Can I go up to someone and ask — are you of the masses or the ruling class? And if people are not authoritative enough to determine this for themselves, who is an authority that can make the determination for them?

But this involves a dilemma. If I ask Joe if he is of the masses and Joe says "Yes," then our authority must also say "Yes" or the basis of his authority comes into question. The safest course seems to be to let everyone speak for themselves.

But, is Bob Wilson of the masses or the ruling class? We note that ruling class children are educated to have high verbal skill and low manual dexterity. We know that Bob has high verbal dexterity and, presumably, it was taught. This would make him of the ruling class.

But he may also have high manual dexterity and maybe this was taught. Then what is he?

The answer is that Wilson does not consider himself either of the ruling class or the masses. This can be ascertained from the quotation. The ruling class wants the masses to have only manual dexterity while they want their own children to have only high verbal dexterity. Bob Wilson wants all children to have both manual and verbal dexterity. Thus he is not of the ruling class.

In reference to the masses, Wilson states that their existence is barely fit for two-legged primates. He finds "no advantage in reducing (himself) to that level of semantic blindness." He is, therefore, above (whatever that means) the masses but not of the ruling class. And, gratuitously, he includes all SRAF readers on a par with him above the masses.

A further question presents itself. People

have an existence that is (barely) hominid. Can the existence of a person be separated from the individual himself? If a person exists as a miner, is he a miner? If a person's existence is barely hominid, is he barely hominid? Also, what does a man who is definitely hominid have that "the masses" barely have?

It is my opinion that when Bob Wilson states that the existence of the masses is (barely) hominid, he is saying the masses are barely hominid. It is simply too gross to assert that there is an existence of a being that is separate from the being itself.

But who are the masses and who is the ruling class? In SRAF No. 30 Bob Wilson said: "Words contain both denotations and connotations." Denotative meanings he defined as "specific meanings generally known and empirically recorded in dictionaries." Connotative meanings, he stated, are "tints, tangs, tones, varying from person to person."

Thus, Wilson would argue that if we desire an empirical definition of a word, we need only consult a dictionary. So this I did and found the following:

the masses: the common people; the working people; lower classes in the social order; opposed to the classes.

class: social rank, esp. high rank; as, the feeling of class; hence, the classees.

the classes: that portion of the community which is regarded, because of birth, wealth, education, etc., as being higher than, or distinct from, the masses.

Bob Wilson says, "the use of 'high grade moron' language reduces one to the mental processes of a high grade moron."

My dictionary defines a moron as a "stupid or boorish individual" and says, "BOOR, orig., applicable to any small farmer, now strongly implies rudeness, insensitivity, or dullness; it is an antonym of gentleman (he that is rude to a pretty girl when she offers him wine is too great a boor to understand — Charles Kingsley.)"

The original "moron jokes" were "farmer jokes" or "farmer's daughter jokes." The small farmer became an object of ridicule because of his opposition to social changes necessary for industrialization. This opposition resulted from the need of industry to secure food and clothing inexpensively for industrial workers because ultimately it is the cost of food and clothing that determine what

page 5.
refined can be easily governed.

-How does one govern a boor?

But there are others who are trying for positions of prestige and power. Wilson argues that they are the ones who desire to treat the masses as boors. Those who are competing with Wilson want to force the masses to exist under barely hominid conditions. And every reader knows we must feel sorry for the boors.

Thus, er have Wilson joining Truman, Humphrey, Carter, Elizabeth Gurley Flynn, etc., against the ruling class and he gives his credentials to show that he also has class.

"After Vancouver, I was in Houston to give a lecture at the Contemporary Arts Museum and met with the local Crowleyan magicians...To my delight, they have changed their name from Temple of the Hidden God to Lone Star Illuminate, in honor of a certain book. I also went on an alligator hunt, appeared at an autograph party at a bookstore, and was a guest on 3 radio shows."

Wilson says he almost got into the zero-gravity simulator at NASA but at the last hour it turned out to be reserved for research that day. The scientists cautioned him that everybody gets sick the first time and when Wilson responded, "If I were afraid of that, I'd never have tried peyote," everyone must have laughed because now he was among his own class.

-END-

STRONG-ARM METHODS

Jim Bumpas writes in SRAF No. 53:

"Your (Woodworth's) bald assertion that (we use)...'attempted strong-arm methods and lies' ...remains merely ludicrous in the absence of any substantiation."

May I provide some substantiation? I will define as "strong-arm methods" those tactics intended to prevent an individual from expanding his, or her, position within the bulletin. People learn by being able to write their thoughts freely and by being encouraged to express themselves. Some writers in SRAF do attempt to discourage others from expressing themselves and do browbeat them to conform. I will call this using "strong-arm methods."

Take the following by Bob Wilson in SRAF No. 39:

"Debi in Erie wants Shea's idea censored on the grounds that she disapproves of Shea's job (as a Playboy executive.) While I, as a plumb-line libertarian, oppose all censorship,

I presume that Debi's reasons for believing in censorship made sense to her, so I won't repeat any of the famous lockean, miltonian, jeffersonian, millian, etc. arguments for free speech. I ask instead that Debi extensionalize her fascism a little. Where may SRAF writers be allowed to work? What positions may they hold? What salaries may they receive? Should decisions on these matters be accepted by all of us on Debi's authority or should we democratically vote on each issue before cutting out the heretic's (literary) tongue? Can people be censored only for present employment? or also for past employment? How many years back, ie, any statute of limitations? Can writers also be disqualified by a central committee? disapproved by a majority of voting members? For having suspicious brothers, sisters, children, parents, wives, husbands?"

I wish to add that the above tactics are typical of libertarians and follow logically from the libertarian position. I find in my dictionary that a libertarian is "one who advocates full civil liberties for the individual."

But before one can advocate full civil liberties, one must define what these civil liberties are. This definition only exists in fantasy. If it did exist in reality, it would only have been necessary for Wilson to state one argument for libertarianism. As it is, he found it necessary to state four arguments - Locke, Milton, Jefferson and Mill - and by adding "etc.," he implies that this does not exhaust the subject.

Because libertarianism is fantasy, the libertarian method of argument proceeds as follows:

The educational system teaches that civil liberties are "good." Because of this indoctrination, those who desire for positions of prestige and power need only state that they are libertarians. They immediately become an authority on civil liberties and that which they say is a violation of civil liberties becomes "wrong."

Once again it is demonstrated that the educated and refined are more easily governed. Wilson's statement that he is a libertarian would have no meaning for the boors.

To the degree that I am able, I try not to be a libertarian and if Wilson wishes to repeat these "famous" arguments for defining other individuals civil liberties for them, I will be happy to present a rebuttal.

-END-

921 W. 19th Ave.
Virginia, MN 5792

page 3.
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-How does one govern a boor?

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Sennaciecaj Salutojn!
P. Persson, Svartviksvagen 14,
S-12352 Farsta, Sweden

FLORENCE, MASSACHUSETTS:
Comrades,

We just had a conference over in Amherst that was billed as anarchist and in some respects was. Lots of academics showed up but a few real live anarchists drifted in as well. The event was good for us in several ways. We sold a lot of books, enabling us to expand our stock and so on, we made new contacts and personalized some old ones, and we really got a lot of new ideas about things that we as a collective can do.

One point of discussion with active social revolutionary anarchists was the SRAF. Practically everyone that I talked to had bad things to say about SRAF. "Anarcho-hippies" useless, aimless, thoughtless and so on. We could only report that since we decided to join SRAF some 2 or 3 months ago we have had NO contact with anyone in SRAF with the exception of receiving 20 copies of Black Star to sell at the conference. Of course, there are two equally important questions to be asked: "What is SRAF doing for us?" and "What are we doing for SRAF?" So far, the answer to both is NADA. Excepting of course that you print and we distribute. Business by any other name is business. ORDERING: 10 Spanish Triangle; 10 Property; 2 Rebellion; 50 US Out buttons; one each of everything else that you have in print. And a new copy of your publication list and any copies of the bulletin you may have since we have no copies at all and can't seem to get any, and some reassurance if possible.

In struggle, Mike Quinlan
for Spark Books, Box 195, Florence, MA 01060

BROCKTON, MASSACHUSETTS:
SRAF,

Every so often I get in the mail a sheet such as the SRAF bulletin, No Governor, or Black Star. As I no longer want these publications, and as you are the source of all of them, I thought it a good idea to kill 3 birds with one stone.

It might be objected that I seem unable to make up my mind as to whether I want the bulletin, especially as I've discontinued and re-continued it several times. Well, as a matter of fact, I did not solicit it in the first place. It showed up at my door one

day of its own accord. And I admit that at first I was delighted. Then I began to discover things--things such as the fact that the list of affiliated organizations gives a vastly inflated view of SRAF's strength; such as the fact that for sheer inanity and ignorance coupled with verbal filth SRAF is unrivaled; such as the fact that the group's promise of freedom of expression was a phony; such as the fact that the organization, then not exclusively male chauvinist, as it is today, did everything it could to kill feminism in its ranks; and so on and so forth.

I thought, well, if SRAF claims to be free and is not, why not go over to the Reds, who at least make no pretense at being free? This was a reasonable step for me, as I had previously sympathized with Marxism-Leninism without really understanding its principles. As I studied Marx, Lenin, and Stalin more and more, I found a depth and subtlety which is completely lacking in anarchistic theory. Why, Paul Goodman, to me the least unintelligent of the libertarian thinkers, put down social ills to the suppression of homosexuality in adolescent boys! A fine counterpart for the ideas of surplus value and the materialist conception of history.

So please--no more!

John MacLeod

SRAFPRTN (Mountain View, California):
Dear SRAFniki,

Since raising the issue in a recent bulletin, I've gained more insight into the problem of slowdown of participation of anarchists in this project: recent issues of the bulletin have taken over one month to be delivered in some cases, and almost all cases show delivery times of between 2 and 3 weeks. Formerly, this bulletin only rarely took 3 weeks, and sometimes only 3 days passed for this bulletin to reach points in the mid-West. This increasing delay in delivery time causes responses to be returned late, further delaying the next issue. After the holiday mail loosens this may improve--but maybe not.

Also, I'd like to endorse Pete Ridley's request that those responsible for listing a SRAF group address please review their situation and determine if the address is still active. We will not remove any address unless mail is returned undeliverable or else someone from the group tells us to remove the address. But 3rd class mail isn't always returned, even when we print "return postage guaranteed".

Freequally, Jim